

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration. Claims 1-37, which were previously examined, are pending in this application, of which claims 1 and 5 are independent. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1-8 stand rejected under the judicially-created doctrine of obvious-type double patenting as purportedly being unpatentable over claims 1-8 of co-pending U.S. patent Application No. 09/853,891. Applicant respectfully disagrees with this rejection. However, to expedite the prosecution of this application, Applicant submits herewith a Terminal Disclaimer with respect to U.S. Patent Application No. 09/853,891. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the double patenting rejection of claims 1-8 be withdrawn.

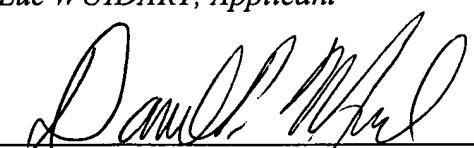
CONCLUSION

A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at the telephone number listed below if this communication does not place the case in condition for allowance.

If this response is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicant hereby requests any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee, that is not covered by an enclosed check, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 23/2825.

Respectfully submitted,
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